

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No

PCT/GB2006/000372

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

INV. E06B9/54 E06B9/266 E06B9/42

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

E06B

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	NL 1 023 743 C2 (JAN PIETER OSKAM) 28 December 2004 (2004-12-28) page 6, line 15 - page 7, line 12; figures 3-5	1,3-5,8, 10-14
A		2
X	DE 101 26 006 A1 (LAEMMERMANN, GERD) 19 December 2002 (2002-12-19) paragraphs [0017] - [0034]; figures 1-8	1,4,5,8, 11
A		2
X	US 2 596 438 A (ROLLINGS DAVID R) 13 May 1952 (1952-05-13) column 2, line 15 - column 3, line 22; figures 1-5	1,5,8,11
A		2

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.☒ See patent family annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:

A document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance

E earlier document but published on or after the international filing date

L document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)

O document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means

P document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

T later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

X document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

Y document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.

Z document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

29 June 2006

Date of mailing of the international search report

06/07/2006

Name and mailing address of the ISA/

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C(Continuation). DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	US 2003/075281 A1 (GOLDENBERG SHAUL ET AL) 24 April 2003 (2003-04-24) sentences 14-36, paragraph 59; figures 11C, 11D, 11E -----	1-14
A	US 2004/154753 A1 (TAGTOW GARY E ET AL) 12 August 2004 (2004-08-12) abstract; figure 2 -----	1-14
A	US 2001/030028 A1 (POPPEMA JOHN) 18 October 2001 (2001-10-18) paragraphs [0109] - [0111]; figures 13, 21-23 -----	1-14
A	US 5 479 979 A (HAYASHIGUCHI ET AL) 2 January 1996 (1996-01-02) column 3, lines 13-19; figure 2 -----	1-14

FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210

Continuation of Box II.2

Claims Nos.: 60-64

Subject-matter has no specific features and refers only to the drawings.

The applicant's attention is drawn to the fact that claims relating to inventions in respect of which no international search report has been established need not be the subject of an international preliminary examination (Rule 66.1(e) PCT). The applicant is advised that the EPO policy when acting as an International Preliminary Examining Authority is normally not to carry out a preliminary examination on matter which has not been searched. This is the case irrespective of whether or not the claims are amended following receipt of the search report or during any Chapter II procedure. If the application proceeds into the regional phase before the EPO, the applicant is reminded that a search may be carried out during examination before the EPO (see EPO Guideline C-VI, 8.5), should the problems which led to the Article 17(2) declaration be overcome.

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Box II Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)

This International Search Report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:
2. ☒ Claims Nos.: 60-64
because they relate to parts of the International Application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful International Search can be carried out, specifically:
see FURTHER INFORMATION sheet PCT/ISA/210
3. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

Box III Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 3 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this International application, as follows:

see additional sheet

1. ☐ As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers all searchable claims.
2. ☐ As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.
3. ☒ As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:
1-14
4. ☐ No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this International Search Report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

Remark on Protest

- ☐ The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.
- ☒ No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210

This International Searching Authority found multiple (groups of) inventions in this international application, as follows:

1. claims: 1, 3-14

A frame for a window blind comprising at least two angle joints connecting at least three extruded portions to form a substantially rigid structure; wherein a window blind may be attached to the frame and wherein the frame is configured to interact with a frame-securing clip comprising a flange for releasable insertion between a window casing and a glass pane within the window casing and a support extending from the flange having at least one engaging member, the engaging member being configured to releasably engage a frame.

2. claims: 2-14

A frame for a window blind comprising at least two angle joints connecting at least three extruded portions to form a substantially rigid structure; wherein a window blind may be attached to the frame and wherein the frame is configured to interact with a frame-securing clip comprising a flange for releasable insertion between a window casing and a glass pane within the window casing and a support extending from the flange having at least one engaging member, the engaging member being configured to retain the clip in position relative to a frame and including at least one portion which facilitates the positioning of the frame at a plurality of distances from the window casing.

3. claims: 15-19

A window blind frame system comprising a window blind secured to a frame and at least one frame-securing clip for releasably retaining the frame in position relative to the window casing.

4. claims: 20-25

A kit for making a blind frame system comprising: a frame-securing clip; at least one extruded portion; and at least one angle joint.

5. claims: 26-31

A frame-securing clip... ..for resisting insertion.

6. claims: 32-50

A frame securing clip... ..for resisting twisting.

FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210

7. claims: 51-55

An extruded portion for forming a window blind frame and adapted to interact with a frame-securing clip of any of claims 26-50.

8. claims: 56-58

A method of assembling a window blind containing a frame according to any of claims 1-7.

9. claim: 59

A method of fitting the window blind frame system according to any of claims 15 to 19.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International application No

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Patent document cited in search report	Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
NL 1023743	C2	28-12-2004	NONE
DE 10126006	A1	19-12-2002	NONE
US 2596438	A	13-05-1952	NONE
US 2003075281	A1	24-04-2003	CA 2359549 A1 22-04-2003 CA 2542245 A1 22-04-2003
US 2004154753	A1	12-08-2004	NONE
US 2001030028	A1	18-10-2001	NONE
US 5479979	A	02-01-1996	FR 2708661 A1 10-02-1995 JP 7097886 A 11-04-1995